staff to launch special drives against the activities of touts and other anti-social elements at all major stations. Strict disciplinary action is taken against the staff found indulging in malpractices.

ललितपुर से सतना तक रेल लाइन

1991. **श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खजुराहो से महोबा तक की लिंक-लाइन सहित ललितपुर से सतना तक और रीवा से सिंगरौली तक की 541 किलोमीटर लंबी नई रेल लाइन के निर्माण कार्य, जिसकी अनुमानित लागत 975 करोड़ रुपये हैं, को 1997-98 के बजट में शामिल किया गया है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उक्त रेल लाइन का प्रस्ताव अनुमोदन हेतु योजना आयोग को भेज दिया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) अपेक्षित स्वीकृति अब प्राप्त हो गई है। अंतिम स्थान सर्वेक्षण शुरू किया गया है। इसके बाद भूमि का अधिग्रहण किया जाएगा तथा भूमि उपलब्ध हो जाने पर कार्य शुरू किया जाएगा।

Concession to senior citizens

1992. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Railways provide concession in fares for journeys undertaken by those above 60 years of age now; and

(b) if so, the date from which the amendment entitling senior citizens of 60 or more, instead of 65 or more years of age, has been enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Additional Coaches in Express Trains for Andhra Pradesh

1993. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to add additional coaches to Narsapur Express, Simhadri Express and Ratnachal Express in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present accommodation in the above three trains is inadequate;

(c) the number of coaches in each of the three trains respectively;

(d) the reasons for not adding more coaches to reduce over-crowding in the above trains; and

(e) what innovative measures are proposed in South Central Railway to meet passenger demand in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (e) 7239/7240 Simhadari Express has been augmented with 5 coaches from 15.8.1998. The number of coaches in each of the three trains are as follows:

(i) 7055/7056 Hyderabad-Narsapur Express with 19 coaches on Vijayawada-Gudivada section.

(ii) 7239/7240 Simhadri Express with 20 coaches on Nidadavolu-Visakhapatnam section.

(iii) 2717/2718 Ratnachal Express with 17 coaches.